



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1997

No. 144

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Breathe into us, O God, the breath of life; strengthen us, O God, with the power of Your spirit; encourage us, O God, with the vision of liberty and the heritage of freedom; comfort us, O God, with the grace of forgiveness and the assurance of peace in our hearts, and may Your good blessing be with us now and evermore. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. NEY] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. NEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. McDevitt, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a concurrent resolution of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 56. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony honoring Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope by conferring upon him the status of an honorary veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2527

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as cosponsor of H.R. 2227.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

DO NOT GIVE UP ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, today Speaker GINGRICH will bring to the floor the Republican private education savings account proposal. This bill will do nothing to improve public schools. It is just another tax break for wealthy Americans to help them pay for private schools.

We already provide tax-favored savings accounts to help parents pay for

college education expenses, both public and private. But there is no reason to expand this to pay for expenses from kindergarten to 12th grade at private schools. The money should instead be invested to improve public education from K to 12.

A Democratic alternative that will be proposed today would use the money for interest-free bonds made available to public schools to pay for school construction and repair, purchases of equipment and teacher training expenses.

Madam Speaker, I would ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the Democratic alternative. Let us improve public education rather than siphon Federal dollars for private schools. Madam Speaker, I say to my colleagues: Do not give up on the public schools.

TRANSPORTATION OF NUCLEAR WASTE POSES THREAT TO AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, the nuclear energy industry is trying to pull the nuclear wool over the eyes of America.

A recent report stated that transportation accidents involving dangerous nuclear wastes are inevitable and widespread catastrophic contamination is very, very possible. When comparing similar situations of transporting nuclear wastes and hazardous materials, the future for needless highly dangerous nuclear waste shipments looks frightening.

Data from the Department of Transportation reveals that in the last 10 years, just under 100,000 accidents released some form of hazardous material in the United States and its territories.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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